



United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

**INSPECTION REPORT**

DBURDEN  
5585 cust\_id  
224022 insp\_id  
12785 site\_id

**PERRY'S WILDERNESS RANCH &  
ZOO**

Customer ID: 5585  
Certificate: 42-C-0101

**3295 54TH ST TRAIL  
CENTER POINT, IA 52213**

Site: TRA  
PERRY'S WILDERNESS RANCH &

Inspection  
Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: FEB-27-2003

**2.40 ( b ) ( 2 )**

**ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).**

"Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries, and the availability of emergency, weekend, and holiday care"

On 22 February 2003, Licensee observed progressive health problems (vomiting, listlessness, dehydration) in three 11-day old tiger cubs (born 11 February 2003) while on exhibit in Thornton, CO. The first cub died on the morning of 22 Feb, the second cub died later during the day, and the third cub died later that evening. The cubs were in immediate need of appropriate veterinary care and none was provided. Licensee must provide adequate emergency veterinary care for all regulated animals. To be corrected immediately. Additionally, the current Program of Veterinary Care, Section III, Wild and Exotic Animals, has no provision for emergency care. There is no documented plan as to how Licensee intends to handle emergency veterinary care issues for the wild and exotic animals. Licensee must provide in the Program of Veterinary Care, a clear description of how he intends to provide emergency, weekend, and holiday care, especially when on traveling exhibit. To be corrected immediately.

**2.131 ( a ) ( 3 )**

**HANDLING OF ANIMALS.**

"Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.... Young or immature animals shall not be exposed to rough or excessive public handling or exhibited for periods of time which would be detrimental to their health or well-being.... Animals shall be exhibited only for periods of time and under conditions consistent with their good health and well-being."

The three tiger cubs which died on 22 February 2003, had been handled for photographs with the public on the day prior to their deaths, and had been transported from Ohio to Iowa to Colorado two days prior. Considering these cubs were approximately 8 days old at the time which they were acquired from Ohio by the Licensee on 19 February 2003, transportation and handling stresses cannot be ruled out as contributing to their failed health on 22 February. The cubs had been handled by the public during photograph sessions on 21 February, which consisted removing the animals from their heated enclosure, exposure to cold warehouse temperatures, and bottle fed during the photographs. Two of the cubs had not yet opened their eyes. Licensee must be aware of the potential adverse health effects of such stresses on very young animals and must not transport or handle animals in a manner which may be detrimental to their health. To be corrected immediately.

Prepared By:

  
DARYL BURDEN, VMO, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER, Inspector ID: 5035

Received By:

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL #7002 2030 0000 8339 9307

Title:

Date:

MAR-10-2003

Date:

MAR-10-2003

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3.129 ( a )

FEEDING.

"The food shall be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain all animals in good health. The diet shall be prepared with consideration for the age, species, condition, size, and type of the animal."

Licensee has no written dietary formula or feeding schedule approved by the attending veterinarian. Licensee is not currently providing a commercially-prepared formulation for feeding the young tiger cubs. Therefore, the diet which the Licensee is preparing must be demonstrated to be appropriate by an attending veterinarian who is knowledgeable in the nutritional requirements of the animals being fed. Licensee intends to have a written dietary formula approved by the attending veterinarian. To be corrected by 31 March 2003.

Discussed with Licensee the importance of providing immediate and appropriate veterinary care and maintaining a properly completed Program of Veterinary Care. Provided Licensee with a copy of Policy #3 (Veterinary Care).

Discussed with Licensee the importance of providing appropriate dietary formulas and feeding schedules, with emphasis on verifying that proper nutrition is being provided for the young felids. Provided Licensee with a copy of Policy #25 (Proper Diets for Large Felids).

Inspection performed at exhibit at American Furniture Warehouse, Thornton, CO on 27 February 2003 and American Furniture Warehouse, Ft. Collins, CO on 10 March 2003.

Accompanied by Elizabeth Kelpis, Senior Investigator, USDA/IES, and Scot Dutcher, Bureau of Animal Protection, State of Colorado.

Discussed the findings in this inspection report with Licensee/Owner Craig Perry at the Ft Collins, CO site on 10 March 2003. Mr Perry declined to provide his signature in order to acknowledge receipt of this inspection report. A copy of this inspection report is being sent to Licensee via certified mail.

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